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The Late  
King of Spain's  
**W I L L,**  
AND THE  
Treaty for the *PARTITION*  
OF THE  
**KINGDOM of SPAIN;**  
Recited and Consider'd, Paragraph by Paragraph ;

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The First

# Kingdom of Spain

L I I W

AND THE

Colonies of the Spanish

OF THE

# KINGDOM of Spain

Religious Councils & Properties of Priests

The Late  
King of Spain's  
**WILL,**  
AND THE  
Treaty for the *PARTITION*.  
OF THE  
**KINGDOM of SPAIN,**

Recited and Consider'd, Paragraph by Paragraph :

WITH

Animadversions upon Both, tending to Prove, That it  
is the Interest of all *EUROPE*, to Adhere inviola-  
bly to the *Partition* of the Spanish Monarchy ; and  
more particularly conduceing to the Welfare of  
*England.*

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L O N D O N :

Printed for J. Nutt near Stationers-Hall, 1701.

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The First

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King of Spain  
and the  
Court of Madrid  
of the  
Kingdom of Spain

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WITH

A history of the Court of Madrid, from its origin to the present time, in the reigns of Philip II, Philip III, Philip IV, Charles II, Philip V, Ferdinand VI, Charles III, Charles IV, Ferdinand VII, and Isabella II, with a history of the Spanish Monarchy; and a history of the Monarchs of Spain.

LONDON

Printed for A. W. H. & Son, 1901.

The Late  
King of Spain's

**WILL,**

**AND THE**  
**Treaty for the PARTITION**  
**OF THE**

**KINGDOM of SPAIN;**

Recited and Consider'd, Paragraph by Paragraph;

**S**Ince nothing has lately more employed the Tongues and Pens of Mankind, than Discourses about the late King of Spain's Will, and the Dividend of the Spanish Monarchy, I thought I could not more oblige the Curious Enquirers, than by Accommodating them with the sight of the Will it self, and the Articles, which set forth the Partition, with Modest Remarks upon Both; tending to prove beyond Contradiction, that 'tis the Interest of all *Europe*, and more particularly of our Native Country *England*, to adhere inviolably to the Partition of the Spanish Monarchy, as it was agreed on by the Kings of *England* and *France*, and the States General of the United Provinces, if the King of Spain should Die without Issue. And tho' I shall invert the Order of time, in which these Affairs were Transacted, I shall begin with the late King of Spain's Will, which if it Signifies any thing, 'tis only to Embroil Christendom in a

Bloody War, that peradventure, the Youngest of this Generation may not live to see an End of.

## WILL.

*The last Will and Testament of Charles the Second, late King of Spain, now in Glory, which he made to settle the Succession of the Crown of Spain.*

The Title, as well as the whole Will it self, would bear severe Reflections, which I shall Omit, out of the Respect which is due to Crown'd Heads, and proceed to the Contents, which that they may be known from the Animadversions, is put into a different Character.

## THE WILL.

*We observing, agreeable to the Results of several Consultations held by our Ministers of State and Justice, that the Reasons, on which the Renunciation of the Ladies Donna Anna, and Donna Maria Theresia, Queens of France, my Aunt and Sister, concerning the Succession of this Kingdom, was grounded upon the Danger and Prejudice of uniting this Kingdom to France.*

It is apparent by this Paragraph, that the Wisdom of Spain, in all Ages, thought it their Great Security, to prevent a possibility of that Crown's falling upon French Heads, and therefore in all their Treaties of Peace or Marriage, took all the Care imaginable to prevent it, by keeping them at a Distance, destroying every pretence to such a Claim, and keeping the Ballance of Power in Europe in its just Poise, that Aspiring France, by such a Considerable Addition as Spain would be, might neither have Power to Oppress Spain, nor any of the Princes of Europe. This was the Reason why the King and Council of Spain, would not give these Ladies in Marriage to France till they had made and obtained Renunciation of their Right

as Queens of *France*; which was thought a Tye strong enough in those Days, tho' of late, since the Knot could not be loos'd without Violating the Faith of Leagues and Contracts, they have thought fit to cut it by self Interested Glosses and Expositions. Now how those Reasons come to Cease at this Juncture, as is insinuated by the Will, can be no less than the Wonder and Admiration of all the World, since the *French King*, if he has the Inclination, is indued with a greater Power of his own, to oppress the Kingdom of *Spain*, and all *Europe* besides, than ever any King of that Country had since it was a Monarchy; and what he will do, if the Gold and Silver Mines of the *Indies*, and all *Spain* should be added to his Present Strength; is not fit to be Trusted to any Ambitious Prince's Kindnes, or Good Nature, though he had obliged his Neighbours with greater Instances of his Benignity, than yet the Most Christian King has been pleased to shew us.

### WILL.

*And observing when the Fundamental Reason should cease, that then the Right of Succession did devolve upon the next in Blood, according to the Laws of these Kingdoms, and that now this Accident is Verified in the second Son of the Dauphin of France.*

This short Paragraph seems to have a Double Face, and yet both are Frightful. One way it looks as if it were conducive to the Welfare of *Spain*, to Disinherit the Heir Apparent, yet turn it the other way, and it seems to intimate, that the Younger Son have a kind of Right, where the Elder Brother of both Families pretending to it, have none at all; which if it be not Injustice, is a manifest Error; for the Duke of *Anjou* has no more Right to the Crown of *Spain*, while his Father the *Dauphin*, or the Duke of *Burgundy* his Eldest Brother are living, than

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an Atheist has to Heaven, or the King of Bantum to France and Navarre.

WILL.

I therefore Regulating my self according to the said Laws, do Declare for my Successor, if God takes me away without leaving Issue, the Duke of Anjou, Second Son to the Dauphin, and as such, do Appoint and Nominate him to Succeed me in all my Kingdoms and Dominions, none excepted; and do Command and Ordain, that all my Subjects and Vassals, do acknowledge him as their Natural King and Lord, and that without delay they put him into the Actual Possession of them: Provided he takes the Usual Oaths, to observe the Laws, Ordinances and Customs of my said Realms and Dominions.

Here you have the late King of Spain's Bequest, that no Body in the End will have Cause to thank him for: Not the French King, for if he should accept the whole as a Gift of the late King of Spain, it will Infallibly Scandalize that most Christian King with the Breach of his own Treaty, which he has Sign'd and Consented to already, which is to be content with a Part of it; and would Force him into a New War with his Neighbours, before he has Recover'd the Damages he sustain'd in the last. Not the Dauphin, nor the Duke of Burgundy his Eldest Son; for the Will, has given away their undoubted Rights; nor the Duke of d'Anjou, on whom, or at least upon whose Posterity, he has entail'd an everlasting War, if the Duke of Burgundy leaves Children behind him; for, by the same Reason that the Renunciation of the Dauphin's Father and Mother at the Pyrenean Treaty, cannot prejudice his Right of Succession to the Crown of Spain, which is the only Argument that supports the French Claim; by the same Reason neither the Dauphin's, nor the Duke of Eur-

gundy's

gundy's Consent to the Spanish Will, can prejudice the Right of their Posterities, as soon as their Swords render them fit to Demand it.

Nor does the late King of Spain's Command, to put the Duke of Anjou into immediate Possession, signify any thing, unless it be Obey'd by the Rule of Contraries, and serves to put his Subjects into the Possession of their Natural Right, to defend themselves from being Slaves to a profess'd Enemy, and a foreign Nation. Besides, if the inbred Hatred of the Spaniards to the French was utterly extinguish'd, the Duke of Anjou will find two words to that Bargain ; for if ( as we are told ) the Emperor's Ambassador at Madrid has already Protested against the Spanish Will, he must know, tho' he has his Grand-father to help him, he will sit but very uneasy in Spain, without his Imperial Majesty's Consent, who Claims a Right Antecedent to his ; nor will the English and Dutch be unconcern'd in Defence of the Treaty, and the Partition, to which they with his Grandfather are solemnly Obliged by Articles.

### WILL.

And it being my Intention, for the Welfare of my own Subjects, and the Peace of all Europe, that this Monarchy be kept divided from the Crown of France, I do Declare that if the said Duke of Anjou should dye, or coming to Inherit the Crown of France, should prefer the Enjoyment of that Monarchy before this of Spain, that the Succession shall Devolve upon the Duke of Berry, his Brother, the Dauphin's Third Son, in the same manner.

In the Foregoing Clause you had the Bequest, and you have seen what in all probability it will amount to, if the French King thinks fit to conform to the Treaty and Partition he has already agreed to, and obliged himself to keep, or according to his wonted Prudence, will look before

before he leaps, and see what is in the Bosom of Futurity. In this you have the Reasons of the Deceased Monarch for doing it, which in general Terms, is said to be for the Welfare of his Subjects, and the Peace and Tranquillity of all *Europe*, upon which the Questions naturally suggested themselves. Is it for the Advantage of the Spaniards to be made Slaves to the *French*, or be forc'd at last to Fight for their Liberties and Properties, when they are over-Power'd, Disarm'd, and no Body to help them? for this giving up *Spain* so entirely at a Venture, without any previous Solid Securities, for their Liberties and Properties, looks so like a Conquest, that what I have Queried about, is the first thing to be expected by the Natives. 2dly,

Is it for the Peace and Tranquility of *Europe*, that *France* by Tacking *Spain*, and the Wealth of the *Indies* to it, should grow Bigger and Richer than all *Europe* besides, and be able to Oppress them at pleasure? 3dly,

Is giving the Crown of *Spain* to the *French*, the way to keep the Kingdoms Divided; or rather could a better expedient be found out to Unite them, under one Dominion, than the *Will* has done, if all *Europe* is so fast a Sleep, as to suffer the Dangerous Project to take Effect.

Aye, but say the Bribed and Blind Testamentarians, the Duke *d'Anjou* being Caress'd with a Crown and a Vast Kingdom, will soon turn *Spaniard* to oppose the Encroachments of *France* upon his own Territories, and in Common Prudence will preserve that Monarchy for the Inheritance of his own Posterity; to which I Answer, That all these Fine things may be true, if those two Crowns should happen to differ between themselves, then possibly you might have him King of *Spain*, and not Duke of *Anjou*; but if the most Christian King should think fit to Quarrel with all the rest of *Europe*, you will certainly find him Faced about, and be Duke of *Anjou* again,

again, and like a Dutiful Grand-Child, take part with France, and the Great Turk, against all Christendom: And under what a dismal Fate Europe will be then; I leave Wise Men to consider and Prevent, and Fools to Lament when 'tis too late to apply a Remedy.

For let the Crown of Spain be set upon which Head it will of the House of Bourbon, the Command of the Sword will still remain in his Power that Governs at Versailles; and the Spanish Councils, will be Acted by the Measures that are taken there; and so the Spaniard thinking to change Hands by the choice of a Second Son, have only made one Hand the stronger to Oppress and Ruin themselves and all Europe.

## WILL.

And in Case the said Duke of Barry should Die, or Accept the Crown of France, I then Declare and Nominate to the Succession the Arch Duke, Second Son to the Empire, Excluding for the same Reasons and Inconveniences, contrary to the common Interest of my Subjects, the first Born Son of the said Emperor: And in case the Arch Duke should happen to Die, I then Declare and Nominate to the said Succession, the Duke of Savoy and his Sons.

All this amount to no more, than if the Duke of Anjou accepts the Crown of France, he may leave the Crown of Spain if he please, and the Duke of Berry may take it if he can; but if the whole House of Bourbon grow Weary of that Opulent Kingdom and Abdicate, then the Arch Duke, to the Duke of Savoy, and his Sons, may Play at Win it and Ware it. Sure the Deceased Monarch Now in Glory, thought there was some strange Charm or hidden Virtue in a last Will and Testament, that all Princes Nolens Volens must Consent to; for there is no care taken, or Order made in the Will, for Compassing any of his Intentions, or Frustrating contrary Designs, and therefore

is every Prince is left to Catch as Catch can, inheriting no  
Question but there will be a Dividend of that Monarchy, if  
France does not submit to that already made.

## WILL.

And it is my Will, that this be Obeied by all my Subjects,  
as I Command it, and is Convenient for their Welfare, without  
suffering the least Partition or Diminution of the Mon-  
archy, as it was founded by my Ancestors. And as I desire  
the Peace and Unity, which so much concerns Europe, may be  
preserv'd between the Emperor, and the most Christian King;  
I desire and Advise, that the Union may be more firmly  
Cemented, by a Tye of Marriage between the Duke d'Anjou,  
and the Arch Dutchess, in order to give Europe its Re-  
quisite Tranquility.

He that thinks this Conclusion any thing but a bare and  
Insignificant Complement to the Emperor, was never in  
France, where they abound with little else, and with  
which they Impose upon all the World; and he that  
thinks the Court of Madrid was not Trick'd into this  
Will, by the Artifice of Europe's common Enemy, knows  
nothing of the Power of Loues d'Or's in Spain.

Thus far went so much of the late King of Spain's  
Will, as it was Transmitted to us by the first Post af-  
ter his Death, and is indeed all that relates to the Dis-  
position of that Monarchy. But the last Post having  
brought us what remain'd behind, and was then un-  
knownon this side the Water, I have added it to the former,  
that nothing of that Royal Testamant might be wanted;  
tho' some wise Men are of Opinion, that if he had made  
none at all, he had left a fairer Character of his Wis-  
dom and Integrity behind him, than now will attend his  
Memory.

During

## WILL.

During the Inter-Regnum his Majesty Appointed the Queen of Spain to be Regent of that Kingdom, and that she should have a Decisive Voice: That the Presidents of Castilo and Arragon, the Arch-Bishop of Toledo Porto care-ro, the Inquisitor General, with Count Arguillar and Fril-lana, should be Counsellors of State, and Count de Bonavente for the Grandees: And if any of the Presidents should happen to dye, then the Eldest Councillor should Officiate till another was Chosen: That the Schedule appointing the Election of Councillors and Grandees of Spain, seperately Sign'd by the King, shall be of force: That the Council shall Assemble in what place of the Palace the Queen shall direct; at which the Secretary of the General Orders shall Assist, and all Dispatches shall be Signed by the Queen's own Hand, and in the same Place where the King used to Sign, when Living.

All this is to as little purpose as the former; for the Will is to have effect immediately, which Annihilates the Queen's pretended Regency, and is only a Flourish of Respect to her, without any Reality; for since the Power is already in the King by the Will, there is no question but if he Accepts it, he will inhibit all other Authority, and Enter upon the Administration of the Government himself; and so we are told from Paris he has done already, in a materials part of this Clause, by making the Spanish Ambassador at Paris a Grandee of Spain, and Master of his Horse grand Declarng all Persons shall keep their Employments: So that now the Spanish Court is obliged to Act by the Will of the living King, or his Grandfather, and not by that of the Deceased.

*He  
Aberration.*

## WILL.

*He gives the Queen a Dowry of 400000 Spanish Ducats, and all his Jewels, except those belonging to the Crown, and Assigns her one of his Kingdoms in Italy or Spain, at her own Election for her Residence, where she is to Govern in Concert with the Ministers that shall be Appointed by his Successor; And in the same manner adds the Low Countries to Italy.*

A fair Legacy this to the Dowager of Spain, to entitle her to another Husband, tho' scarce a sufficient Recompence for wearing out so much time, in being a Nurse to the former.

## WILL.

*He Bequeaths all the Moveables in his Royal Houses and Palaces to his Successor, whom he Chargeth with the Payment of all his Personal Debts. He Orders a Hundred Thousand Masses to be said for the Rest of his Soul. Declares Santa Therefia, Patroness of Spain: Orders that the Nunnery of Arile shall be under the Royal Patronage, and leaves a Legacy to all the other Royal Convents to be disposed of by the Queen, and Appoints her Majesty, and the Presidents of Castile, Arragon and India, the Chief Steward of the Court, the Inquisitor General, the Confessor and Prior of the Escorial, Executors of his Will.*

Paying his Debts is an Act of Justice, and in their Language Meritorious, but sure he has not many of these upon his Tally, that no less than the addition of 100000 Masses will Ballance his Account in the other World, if they will pass for Current Payment in that Exchequer; but how far the Nuns Devotions may contribute to his Repose is uncertain, and must be left either to the Value of the Legacy or the Character the Queen will give of his extraordinary Merits to their Sex, from her own experience.

WILL.

**WILL.**

*His Majesty confirms all Vice-Roys, Governors, Ministers and Officers of the Household in their Places, and desires his Successor will continue them in their respective Employments, they having served him faithfully.*

Which without doubt the New King will perform to a Tittle, if there be no French Men that want them, otherwise it must be, Out-Dock in Nettle, and well if they scape so too, without leaving some Fleeces of their Fine Spanish VVool behind them, to New Rig their Thredbare Successors.

**VVILL.**

He mentions the Devotions he always had for the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, that he has often desir'd the Pope to Declare it a Mystery of Faith, and desires his Successor to press it farther. He desires the Royal Works may be paid for, as they shall be finish'd by the Royal Architect Jolepho Del Olmo, and the Secretary Don Philippo Eterres, He Ordain'd, out of the great Honour he always had for the Holy Sacrament, to continue the Forty Hours Prayers in the Royal Chappel, with the usual Solemnities, and that the Officers and Priests of that Chapel shall enjoy their Revenues. He Releases the Grandees of all the Taxes they owe him : He enjoins all the Dukes, Marquisses, Counts, Governors, Knights, and Gentlemen of Estates, to comply with the Tenour of his Will, and pay Obedience to the King, his Successor : And concludes with an earnest Exhortation to all his Subjects, to Defend the Catholick Religion, adding; if any of his Successors should Embrace Heretical Opinions, they should Forfeit the Succession.

**This**

This Paragraph containing little, besides a few empty Requests to his Successor, I shall wave them all, but his Exhortation to his Subjects, to Defend the *Catholick Religion*; which I shall first briefly explain the meaning of, and conclude with a short Inference from their Intention, to Encourage us to stand upon our Guard, that we don't fall into the Snare that is preparing for us. Now under the Venerable Epithet of *Catholick Religion*, they mean the Romish Superstition and Idolatry, and by Defending it, the utter Extirpation of the Protestant Religion, under the Name of the *Northern Heresy*. This meaning they have Writ in Bloody Characters already, wheresoever they had Power, and to give them more, were to consume our selves in a Fire of our own Kindling, which God Almighty prevent.

Having thus shew'd the Danger that Impends over the Head of all *Christendom*, if the Contents of this *Will* should prevail, and *Spain* fall into the Clutches of *France*; my next Work is to shew, that it is the Interest of all *Europe* to adhere inviolably to the Partition of the *Spanish Monarchy*, as the only means to prevent *France* from growing too great for her Neighbours, and keep the Ballance of Power in *Europe* in its due Poise, without which that Peace and Prosperity cannot long continue, which has cost the Expence of so much Blood and Treasure to procure. Now because the Articles for the Dividing the *Spanish Dominions* are Rail'd at by some that never saw them, and misrepresented by others that either do not, or will not understand the end and Design of them, it will not be amiss first to Recite them Briefly, and then draw such necessary Inferences from the Importance of them, as may Silence the *Clamorous*, Convince the *Scrupulous*, and confirm the *Well-meaning*, that nothing was intended by His Majesty the King of *England*, or the Lords the *States General* of the United Provinces, but the *Peace and Tranquility* of *Europe*: And if the French

French King shall think fit to alter his Sentiments, he is obliged to take what must necessarily follow.

The Preface to the Articles tell you, that the State of the King of Spain's Health, having been for some time so Languishing, that his Life was much feared, and that Dying without Children, the business of the Succession would infallibly raise a new War, if the most Christian King should maintain his own pretensions, those of Monseigneur the *Dauphin*, or his Descendants to the whole Succession of *Spain*; or if the Emperor should make good his Pretension, those of the King of the *Romans*, of the Arch Duke his Second Son, or of his other Children, Males or Females, unto the said Succession. To prevent which Disputes and Differences, and a new War in *Europe*, on the Subject of the said Succession, or by the Umbrage of Three Estates, reunited under one and the same Prince, they, *viz.* the King of *France*, the King of *England*, and the States General of the United Provinces, have thought good to take necessary measures beforehand, as might prevent the Evils which the sorrowful Event of the *Catholick King's Death*, without Children, might produce.

### The Articles of the Partition.

Therefore it is agreed, That if it should so happen: The Most Christian King, as well in his own Name, as that of Monseigneur the Dauphins, his Heirs and Successors shall hold himself satisfied, and do hold themselves satisfied by these Presents, that Monseigneur the Dauphin shall have for his Share in full property and possession, and in lieu of all his Pretensions to the Succession of *Spain*, the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, the Places depending on the Monarchy of *Spain*, situate on the Coast of *Tuscany*, under the Name of *Sancto Stephano*, *Porto Hercole*, *Orbitello*, *Palamone*, *Porto longo*, *Piombin*; the City and Marquisate of *Final*,  
the

the Province of Guipuscoa, the Cities of Fontarabia and St. Sebastian, the Port of Passage, half the Places on this side the Pyrenees. Further, he shall have the Dominions of the Duke of Lorrain, that is to say, the Dutchies of Lorrain and Bar, in the same manner as Charles the Fourth of that Name possess'd them, and in consideration of these Parts shall Renounce his Title or Claim to all the rest of the Spanish Dominions ; and in Exchange for the latter, the Duke of Lorrain is to have Millan. The Crown of Spain, and the other Kingdoms, Islands, States, Lands and Places, which the Catholick King at this time possesses, as well within as without Europe, shall be given to the most Serene Arch Duke Charles, Second Son to the Emperor, except what was before Given to the Dauphin ; and the Emperor, the King of the Romans, and the Arch Duke Charles shall Renounce all their Pretensions to that Part that is Assign'd for the Dauphin's share. These Articles were Sign'd and Seal'd by all the Plenipotentiaries.

Now, tho' in point of Hereditary Right, many think they have Reason to declaim against this Cantonizing the Spanish Monarchy into parts ; yet the Publick Good, and the Universal Peace of Europe, is to be preferr'd before a Point of Nice Justice, in controverted Matters of State ; and to say no more of this now, if we strictly Examin this Affair, no Prince, or People, have any reason to complain of the Partition ; for since the Confederates, for their own Security, in common Prudence cannot allow that the French should have all Spain, and the French were resolved that the Emperor should not enjoy it, nothing could prevent a War, wherein the Confederates must be Engaged on one side or other, or which is equal in Charge, be forced to keep up an Army to watch the Contender's Motions, and Guard their Territories ; I say, nothing, in human probability, could prevent a Bloody War but this Partition.

Besides,

Besides, they that consider what a great Accession of Glory, Power and Wealth, is made both to the Empire, and to the French, by this Addition to their former Estates : That grasping at more than their Hands could hold, would but weaken them in the end, and that they might enjoy all this quietly without Charge or Trouble, they will think, ( the Ballance of Power in Europe, being also consider'd ) that they could not, or at least ought not to desire more ; especially if they call to mind, that the Fate of War is very uncertain, that both cannot be Conquerors, and what also often times happeneth, that while Two are contending for a Prize till they have weaken'd one another, a Third comes and Seizes it from them both, leaving them to inherit nothing but a dear bought Repentance, for not knowing when they were well. Thus was the Roman Empire subdued by the Goths, which they call'd Barbarians. Palestine, Syria, Egypt and Greece by the Turks. Britain, by the Saxons. France, by the Goths, Burgundians and Franks. Italy, by the Huns, and Spain by the Moors.

As to Succession in the Right Line, which our Fr---ified Malcontents make such a Noise about, as sacred and Inviolable ; I must take leave to tell them, that they were never esteem'd so in any Age of the World, when the publick Interest of Nations, the Preservation of Peace, and the keeping a General Ballance of Power among Princes, stood in Competition with it ; nor is there any reason it should be otherwise ; for as the whole is better than a Part, so the Entire Interest of Christendom is to be prefer'd before that of a single Family, which has given Europe too much Trouble already. They that think I want Examples to confirm these uncontroverted Notions in Policy, never have Read History ; and therefore I advise them to consider Seriously, what a sad and Deplorable Condition England and all Europe had been in, if a Bigotted Papist, entirely in the Interest of France, had

still possess'd the English Scepter; and then I question not, but they will Bless the Revolution, and give God Thanks, that King *WILLIAM* is now on the Throne, who is able to turn the Scales to the Advantage of the Protestant Interest in Europe: Which without doubt, was one great motive that educ'd his Majesty to concern himself in the Treaty above mentioned.

These are the Reasons why I think the Pretenders to the Crown of Spain, ought to be satisfied with their Shares, without troubling themselves about the whole. Now a word or two, why I think they will be contented with it; which tho' I might range under several Heads, and expatiate over large Fields of Matter, yet for Brevity sake, I shall thrust all I have to say to this into one general Conclusion, and that is,

Because it is their Interests to be satisfied with the Partition. The Emperor, notwithstanding the great boasts that are made in his Favour, of being able to break through all these Measures, and subduing all the Opposition that can be made against his Pretensions to the whole; yet I can never have so mean an Opinion of the Emperor's great Wisdom, as to think, that after so considerable a Dominion is Alotted to the *Arch Duke* his Son, and which he may, if he pleases, enjoy without Disturbance, he will put it to the hazard of a War; when all things consider'd, 'twill be Impossible for him to make better Terms for himself, than are made him already; whereas attempting to gain the whole, peradventure in the Event of things may leave him none at all; for tho' possibly he may make a Buffle upon the *Rhine*, and in *Italy*, yet he can never be able to keep *Spain* and *Flanders*, if he really had them already in Possession: For *Spain* could never hold out against the *French* by Land, and the *English* and *Dutch* by Sea, and *Flanders* would immediately be Invaded on one side by the *French*, and on the other side by the *Dutch*, and with little Trouble would.

would fall into their Hands, before the *Emperor*, who by Aiming at the whole, must have Irons in the Fire, can be able to make any considerable opposition against them. No, his Imperial Majesty cannot but be sensible of these Dangers, and other insuperable Difficulties, which of necessity he must Encouter, if he enters into a War, and therefore it cannot be rationally supposed, that he will refuse the Kingdom of *Spain* with all its profitable Islands in the Ocean, Fruitful *Flanders*, and all its Plantations in *America*, with the Inexhaustible Mines of Gold and Silver to Boot, upon bare Possibilities of Catching more; and therefore to adhere to the *Partition*, is his Interest.

Tis true, if *France* were at liberty to pursue his own Inclinations, there is no doubt to be made, but he would immediately enter upon the whole Dominions of *Spain*, as his own, or at least his Son's Right, and Annex them to *France* and *Navarre*, and who could blame him for so doing? but since there are two great Rubs in his way, no Man can divine what he will do, nay, scarce himself yet, till he sees how things will operate to or against his Designs; for tho' some of our Foreign Papers tell us, that he carresses the Duke of *Anjou* with the Title of K. of *Spain*, others say he receiv'd the News of the K. of *Spain*'s Will with so much coldness and Indifference, as if the Gift was not worth the Acceptance; so that by the former, if it was true, he only Acted like a politick Physician, and was only feeling his Neighbour's Pulses, before he determined what Method to prescribe. The first *Remora* in his way to the Crown of *Spain* is the Treaty, he Acknowledging to be Satisfied with the Share that was given him, and Renouncing under Hand and Seal all his Claim to the rest; which are too great and solemn Ties for the Most Christian King, that stands so much upon his Honour and Integrity, to break.

The

The other Remora is two powerful Neighbours, viz. the King of England, and the States of Holland, who, he knows, will never consent to his being so Formidable, as that Addition will render him; and therefore, as it may be supposed, he is not fond of having a new War with them, who gave them his Belly-full in the last; so having by the Partition of the Spanish Monarchy such considerable Acquisitions in Italy, as gives as Absolute Dominion in the Mediterranean Sea, excludes the House of Austria's concerns by Land, hangs the Keys of the Church of Rome at his Girdle, and lays the petty Italian Princes at his Feet; 'tis believed he will certainly keep close to his Alliance, and quietly Accept the Partition of the Spanish Monarchy as his undoubted Interest, rather than lose his new Friends, and render them his certain Enemies. To sum up all in a few words, 'tis the Interest of all Europe to keep both these Rivals from the possession of the whole Spanish Monarchy; for if the Emperor should enjoy it, he would be too Potent for the Princes of Germany, and might Crush them either singly by Decrees, as one of his Predecessors did the Prince-Palatine of the Rhine, or jointly, if he should think fit to Attempt the making of the Imperial Crown Hereditary, to oblige his own Family.

To let the French possess the Spanish Dominions, would be Fatal to the English and Dutch, who chiefly subsists by Trade; for they would soon Worm them out of all, by increasing the number of their Shipping with the Vast Summs of Money that comes yearly from Mexico and Peru; or else by keeping them under continual Wars and Piracies, make Trade more Injurious to our Merchants, whom so many Thousands of our Handicrafts Men depend upon for their Livelihoods, than laying up their Shipping, and Lying Idle; for the latter was but Living upon the Main Stock, but the former would be Enriching our Enemies by

by our own Losses. How little would our Factories, and now profitable Trade with *Spain*, both without and within the *Straights Mouth* signify, when all those Ports shall be free to the *French*, as Subjects to their new King, and such Impositions laid upon their Neighbours, that the *French* will be able to under Sell them, in Merchandise of their own Growth and Manufacturies.

All the Prejudice that Wit and Malice can invent, to ruin the Trade of the *English* and *Dutch*, and Beggar their Merchants, must be expected, if such a fatal Conjunction of the two Kingdoms should happen. What will become of our whole *Levant* Trade to *Smyrna*, *Scanderoon*, *Aleppo*, all the Ports on the *Morea*, *Zant*, *Venice*, *Genoa*, *Leghorn*, &c. when we shall find *Touloon*, *Alegant*, *Gibralter* and *Cadiz*, as full of Pirates on the Christian Shoar, as at *Tunis*, *Tripoly* and *Algiers* on the Coast of *Barbary*; nor are these Fears malicious Suggestions, but down right Matter of Fact; for if the late Peace has already produced so many Pirates of that Nation, that one Sessions, and at one Place, the *Old Baily*, they could spare us Forty to the Gallows, we must believe their Numbers will encrease with their Shipping.

What a dismal Prospect would such a Union of the two Kingdoms give us, in relation to our Colonies in *West-Indies*, when they are so bold to insult us there already, endeavour to Monopolize all the Trade of those Parts to themselves, and have fill'd those Seas so full of *Buccaneirs*, that few Ships, unless of great Force, can escape them: And what will our *Northern Trade* be worth, when *Ostend* and *Newport* by this Addition, as are well stock'd with Pyrates as *Dunkirk* and *St. Malo*.

These are a slight tast of the many Evils I could present you with the Knowledge of, if *Spain* should be Added to *France*: But here remains our Comfort, that we have a Good King, that understands our Dangers, and the way to prevent them, if we are not wanting to our selves in enabling him to do it.